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Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUANDA 00195 200933Z

15
ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 /073 W
---------- 109502
R 200640Z FEB 75
FM AMCONSUL LUANDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3270
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PDEV AO
SUBJECT: UNITA OPENS CAMPAIGN IN CABINDA

1. IN A SIGNIFICANT AND ASTUTE MOVE, UNITA SENT ITS SECRETARY GENERAL MIGUEL N'ZAU PUNA TO CABINDA ON FEBRUARY 16 TO OPEN A CAMPAIGN FOR POLITICAL SUPPORT IN CABINDA. I HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED UNITA CONGRESS MADE THE DECISION TO OPEN A NEW POLITICAL FRONT IN CABINDA EVEN THOUGH JONAS SAVIMBI DECLARED THE MATTER HAD NOT BEEN ON THE AGENDA.

2. PUNA WAS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE THERE ON FEBRUARY 15, BUT POSTPONED THE TRIP ONE DAY WHEN HE LEARNED OF MPLA PRESIDENT AGOSTINHO NETO'S PRESENCE IN THE ENCLAVE. AS IT TURNED OUT, A LARGER CROWD TURNED OUT TO RECEIVE PUNA THAN NETO.. PUNA IS A CABINDAN OF NOBLE LINEAGE AND HIS FAMILY IS ONE OF THE MOST RESPECTED IN THE DISTRICT. ACCORDING TO SOME ACCOUNTS HE HAS A LEGITIMATE CLAIM TO THE
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PAGE 02 LUANDA 00195 200933Z

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006

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3. IN ADDITION TO SENDING PUNA TO CABINDA, UNITA APPARENTLY
HAS DECIDED TO RECOGNIZE CABINDA'S SEPARATISM BY GIVING IT
A SPECIAL STATUS WITHIN AN ANGOLAN NATION. PUNA ANNOUNCED
DURING HIS VISIT THAT UNITA PLANS FIRST OF ALL TO SOUND OUT
OPINION IN CABINDA TO DETERMINE THE POLITICAL SOLUTION CABINDANS
PREFER. HE SAID THAT UNITA, "WILL NOT IMPOSE ANY FORMULA ON
CABINDA." HE REFERRED TO THE TENSION IN THE DISTRICT AND ASKED
THAT CABINDANS NOT LOOK UPON ANGOLANS AS THEIR ENEMIES. WHEN ASKED
AT A PRESS CONFERENCE IF UNITA THOUGHT IN TERMS OF AN INTEGRATED
FREE STATE OF CABINDA WITHIN AN ANGOLAN NATION, PUNA REPLIED THAT
HE WAS IN CABINDA FOR PRECISELY THAT REASON - TO FIND OUT THE WISHES
OF THE PEOPLE AND TO TRANSMIT THEM TO THE UNITA CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

4. WHEN ASKED ABOUT FLEC AND ITS REPRESENTATIVES, PUNA SAID,
"AS FOR RANQUE FRANQUE, I KNOW HIM WELL. WE WERE TOGETHER IN
KINSHASA. I AM NOT HIS ENEMY AND I AM CONVINCED THAT HE IS NOT
MY ENEMY. IF HE WANTS TO TALK WITH ME I WILL NOT HESITATE.
WE ARE BOTH CABINDANS AND I AM READY TO TALK TO TRY AND FIND
A SOLUTION."
KILLORAN

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